

Receipt date: 10/25/2005

10554260 - GAU: 1797

10/554260

"Express Mail" Label Number EV 487107715 US

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on October 25, 2005 and is addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

2020 REC U PCT/PTO 2 5 OCT 2005

(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

Mark A. Hixon

(Typed name of person mailing correspondence)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

JOHANNES MENZEL

Group Art Unit:

Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the DO/EO/US
off PCT/EP2004/005773 filed 28 May 2004

Examiner:

For: METHOD FOR REMOVING ACID GASES
FROM PRESSURIZED NATURAL GAS
THAT IS CONTAMINATED WITH ACID
GAS COMPOUNDS AND RECOVERING
THE REMOVED ACID GASES AT AN
INCREASED PRESSURE LEVEL

Attorney Docket 1-17145

October 25, 2005

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Sir:

Pursuant to Section 1.97 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and prior to the issuance of a first office action, record is hereby made of information the United States Patent and Trademark Office may wish to consider during examination of the above-entitled application which is being filed concurrently herewith under 35 U.S.C. 371. No representation is made or intended that a prior art search was conducted, or that no better art than that listed is available.

IC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 2 5 17145 2005

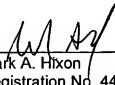
As this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is required for consideration of this IDS.

Patent document DE 197 53 903 A is cited on page 1 in the specification of the present application, which also serves as a statement of relevance for the non-English reference. Patent documents EP 0 968 748 A, 6,001,153 B1, and 6,139,605 B1, as well as DE 197 53 903 A, are all cited in the International Search Report of the corresponding International application. A copy of the International Search Report, which is in the English language and serves as a statement of relevance for any non-English references above, is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are enclosed herewith, along with Form PTO/SB/08A. It is requested that they be fully considered and made of record in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTORNEYS
MARSHALL & MELHORN, LLC
Four SeaGate - 8th Floor
Toledo, Ohio 43604



Mark A. Hixon
Registration No. 44,766

Customer No. 001678
Phone: (419) 249-7145
Fax: (419) 249-7114

PTO/SB/DBA (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Art Unit

Examiner Name _____

Attorney Docket Number

Sheet

1

of

1

1-17145

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | † |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------|---|---|---|
| | | Country Code ² Number ⁴ Kind Code ³ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | | | |
| | | DE 197 53 903 A | 06-24-1999 | Gross et al | | |
| | | EP 0 968 748 A | 01-05-2000 | Menzel | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------|
| Examiner Signature | /Frank Lawrence Jr/ | Date Considered | /FL/ |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------|

*EXAMINER: Include if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard 3.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required for 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the public to prosecute) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.